



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 INR-10 SS-15 CIAE-00 EB-08 EA-10  
DODE-00 H-01 IO-15 NEA-06 NSC-05 NSAE-00 HA-06  
CSCE-04 TRSE-00 PH-09 PA-01 OMB-01 SMS-01 SAL-01  
ACDA-12 SP-02 SPRS-02 /122 W  
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P 161405Z JUL 81  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4982  
INFO USICA WASHDC  
AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY KABUL  
AMCONSUL LENINGRAD  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
USMISSION USNATO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/123

DATE 2/14/90

REVIEWED BY

( ) DIRECTOR

( ) ASSISTANT

( ) CHIEF OF BUREAU

( ) SPECIAL AGENT

( ) CLERK

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BRUSSELS FOR USEC  
E.O. 12065: GDS 7/16/87 (PASCOE, LYNN) OR-P  
TAGS: PEPR, UR, EEC, AF  
SUBJECT: SOVIET PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE  
EC PROPOSAL ON AFGHANISTAN

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. SUMMARY: THE SOVIET PRESS HAS KEPT UP A DRUMBEAT  
OF PROPAGANDA OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS EMPHASIZING  
MOSCOW'S OPPOSITION TO THE EC INITIATIVE ON  
AFGHANISTAN. IN ADDITION TO ORIGINATING THEIR OWN  
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MATERIAL, THEY HAVE ALSO ELICITED COMMENTS FROM

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AFGHANS CRITICAL OF THE PROPOSAL. WHILE ATTEMPTING TO DISCREDIT THE INITIATIVE, HOWEVER, THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN CAREFUL NOT TO SHOW THEMSELVES AS EXPLICITLY REJECTING IT. END SUMMARY.

3. THE SOVIET MEDIA HAVE QUOTED REJECTIONS OF ANY FORM OF NEGOTIATIONS WITHOUT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE BABRAK REGIME FROM AFGHAN PRIME MINISTER KESHMAND, FOREIGN MINISTER DOST AND THE KABUL NEW TIMES. THE LATTER TWO CONDEMNED THE EC PROPOSAL BY NAME. DOST, IN AN INTERVIEW WITH TASS THAT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE JUL 16 PRAVDA, CALLED THE EC INITIATIVE ANOTHER ATTEMPT BY THE "IMPERIALIST COUNTRIES TO UNDERMINE THE AFGHAN REVOLUTION," BOTH AFGHAN OFFICIALS STATE THAT THE ONLY BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS IS THE BABRAK REGIME'S MAY 14, 1980 PROPOSAL FOR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS WITH ITS TWO NEIGHBORS, PAKISTAN AND IRAN.

4. PRAVDA, ON JULY 14, PUBLISHED A LONG COMMENTARY BY ITS POLITICAL OBSERVER VITALIY KORIONOV THAT AMOUNTED TO A REITERATION OF THE BASIC SOVIET APPROACH TOWARD AFGHANISTAN. KORIONOV'S ARTICLE, WHICH RECOUNTED MOSCOW'S STANDARD JUSTIFICATION FOR ITS PRESENCE IN AFGHANISTAN, CLEARLY SUGGESTED THE SOVIETS INTEND TO PERSEVERE IN THEIR PRESENT COURSE. WITHOUT MENTIONING THE EC PROPOSAL BY NAME, KORIONOV REJECTED AS "ABSURD" THE "VERY THOUGHT" THAT A SETTLEMENT OF THE AFGHAN QUESTION COULD TAKE PLACE BEHIND THE BACK OF THE DRA. AS USUAL, THE AUTHOR TRIED TO PUT THE ONUS FOR THE CONTINUED FIGHTING IN THE COUNTRY AND FOR THE  
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ABSENCE OF A SETTLEMENT ON THE U.S. AND CHINA.  
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